

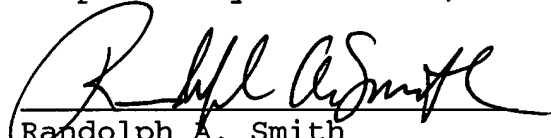
Preliminary Amendment  
Serial No.: filed concurrently  
October 27, 2000

claims 1, 3-4, 6-10, 12-18, 20 and 22-26 are pending in the  
application.

This Amendment includes the subject matter amended in the  
International Application and removes the multiple dependency in  
the claims.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding this  
amendment or the remarks, the Examiner is requested to telephone  
the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: October 27, 2000

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